

units responsive to a request of the terminal apparatus.

- 5 5. The digital transmitter-receiver according to claim 3,
 wherein said first switching unit selects one of said plurality of receiving
 units responsive to a request of the terminal apparatus.

6. The digital transmitter-receiver according to claim 3,
 wherein said second switching unit selects one of said plurality of
 transmitting units responsive to a request of the terminal apparatus.

10

7. The digital transmitter-receiver according to claim 5,
 wherein said second switching unit selects one of said plurality of
 transmitting units responsive to a request of the terminal apparatus.

15

8. The digital transmitter-receiver according to one of claim 1 through
 claim 7,

wherein the digital data is a first MPEG transport stream,

wherein said transcoder separates a video elementary stream and an
 audio elementary stream from the MPEG transport stream, reduces data rate of
 20 the video elementary stream by at least one of thinning of a picture from the
 video elementary stream and thinning of a high frequency component of a
 discrete-cosine-transform (DCT) coefficient, and outputs a second MPEG
 transport stream by multiplexing the video elementary stream after the rate
 reduction and the audio elementary stream.

25

09866280 052501

Sub A'

Adh A2